



**Environmental Quality Advisory Board  
7441 E. Indian School Road, #101  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
Wednesday, May 18, 2005**

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Basinger at 5:25 p.m., noting the presence of a quorum.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Daniel Basinger (Chairman)

Michele Cohen  
Ron Hand  
Jay Spector  
Randy Nussbaum  
Brian Munson

Members Absent: Don Manthe (Vice-chairman)

City Staff Present: Larry Person  
Don Penfield, Facilities Management Director  
Dan Worth, City Engineer, Capital Projects Management  
Chuck Skidmore/Facilities  
Dave Mansfield, General Manager, Water Resources Department  
Beth Miller/Water Resources  
Anthony Floyd/Green Building Program

Other Attendees: Andrea Tintle, Sun Festival  
Dave Hutchinson, DMB  
Zachary Hand

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Basinger identified minor corrections to the minutes of the April 20, 2005, meeting.

Under "LEED Policy Update," the first sentence should be corrected to read, "Mr. Person reported that when the Council passed the resolution of March 22, 2005, Scottsdale became the first municipality in the nation to adopt a LEED gold standard for all new construction."

The second paragraph under "ENVIROKIDSFEST" should read, "Mr. Person presented the T-shirts..."

BOARD MEMBER SPECTOR MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2005 MEETING, AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER NUSSBAUM. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## OLD BUSINESS

### CITY PARKS RECYCLING UPDATE

Board Member Spector reported that Mr. Person and he had attended a meeting with the Parks and Solid Waste Departments about the pilot recycling project at DC Ranch Park. A sign telling park visitors about the project has been erected in the park just this week. He distributed copies of the sign. They are hoping that the sign and the stickers on the container lids will help decrease the contamination. The pilot project is scheduled to run for ten more weeks, after which it will be reevaluated to assess its effectiveness in reducing contamination. He thanked Mr. Person for his department's help with the expenses associated with the outreach project.

In answer to a question from Board Member Cohen, Board Member Spector stated that containers have been moved from the soccer field area to see if contamination would be reduced. The Little Leagues that play there do their own recycling.

Chairman Basinger commented that this is an excellent project and that both the Parks Department and Solid Waste have extended excellent help. Board Member Nussbaum added that he has made a personal commitment to encourage the City to implement a similar program at all Civic Center events. He has offered to coordinate between the Board and the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts to have recycling containers at the Arts Festival.

### LEED POLICY UPDATE

Mr. Worth said that he would be giving an overview of the status and processes for LEEDS, and mentioned that there are others who can talk about the details. He stated that Anthony Floyd and Chuck Skidmore are integral members of design team. Currently, the city has a grand total of 0 certified buildings.

Mr. Worth reported that the first building to be completed will be the Senior Center, which is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion around the end of the year. The Green Building Council then has to evaluate the project, which can take several months. They expect that the project will receive its certification within about a year. Their consultant has assessed the project and believes it is on track to receive a gold level certification.

The Exhibit Hall at WestWorld has been registered for LEED certification and is currently in the design phase. Changes have been made to the original plan to create a multi-use building for equestrian and other events, as well as to have the capability to house exhibitions. The building was originally designed to be a 150,000 sq. ft exhibit hall, now it will be a 225,000 sq. ft. Multi-purpose building for equestrian and other events, as well as the capability to house exhibitions. The cost is estimated to be 50

- 60% more than the original concept. Funding for the new building is hoped to be in the budget for 2006-2007.

Mr. Worth added that the Arabian Library is approximately 60% designed. At the inception of the project there was no intent to apply for LEED certification; however, a number of sustainable elements have been incorporated into the design of the building. He felt it would be feasible to evaluate the design and develop a strategy to achieve LEED Gold certification.

The Police Operational Support Building and the Police District 1 Headquarters are to be built adjacent to each other and will likely share some elements. They are planning to apply for two separate LEED certifications. There are a number of other projects that are in the pipeline, mostly fire stations.

As we have gone through selection processes for a number of projects, we have incorporated LEED in to the criteria. Increasingly, consultants have previous experience with LEED certification and the construction community is starting to catch up. New legislative authority has allowed the city to establish qualification based selection for contractors. This will allow the city to select contractors on the basis of past LEED building activity.

This is a learning process for all concerned, including Capital Project Management (CPM) staff, who are especially starting to learning what the cost impacts of certification are. Future projects will be designed with certification in mind from the initial design phases, which should make the process smoother and less costly.

We are learning a new process how consultants work their way through the design process and what consultant services are available in our community. Mr. Worth is attempting to get some of our project managers to attend seminars and become accredited.

We are learning how to incorporate LEED into the process earlier. We are excited to be doing this at the beginning of the design process on the fire stations and the police facilities. We are incorporating LEED into the budgeting process and into our planning. We will be able to produce a better project with less cost impact.

Board Member Spector asked about local firms being able to provide services to the city. Mr. Worth replied that there are a number of local firms with LEED experience, and the number is growing. Information on local firms is accessible from the USGBC website. When the city has major projects for new facilities, major firms are responding and they are bringing their own LEED expertise. Board Member Spector asked about the facilities for the new Scottsdale Fire Department. Mr. Worth reported that some minor reconfiguration and repair work is underway at the facility, but nothing major.

Board Member Cohen asked whether Mr. Worth felt there was enough staff expertise to be able to evaluate consultants. He answered that he feels there is, and he plans to develop the expertise of the project managers and intends to continue to take advantage of Anthony Floyd and Chuck Skidmore's expertise as well as continue to build CPM staff expertise. Some Project Managers (PMs) should be LEED accredited within six months, and as positions are filled, LEED accreditation will be looked at. The number of buildings that we do is a small percentage of the CPM projects, 3 or 4 PMs are enough to oversee building construction.

Mr. Penfield added that in his CIP Coordinator Role for Facilities it is a challenge to accommodate the added obligations and costs associated with energy saving expenses but that the department is rising to the challenge – the “LEED” Challenge. Current projects were put into the budget seven or eight years ago and the costs of LEED certification were not figured in. The City Council will be challenged to find

additional funding sources to cover the extra costs. He also pointed out that historically the City has been mindful of green building processes and many aspects have already been incorporated. Striving for LEED certification is the new component.

The Senior Center is quickly coming along, and Chuck Skidmore, our legal department, and I have been negotiating with Salt River Project with regard to using solar energy.

Chairman Basinger offered the Board's support to the Facilities Department if it would help with any environmental issues that City Council is considering. Mr. Penfield thanked him for his interest and commitment.

On the Facility Management side, it is the department's mission to maintain the City's buildings and keep them as efficient and comfortable as possible. We have achieved energy savings by replacing older equipment with newer more efficient equipment. We are always looking at upgrades and new technologies, which will lead to energy savings.

Chairman Basinger thanked both Mr. Worth and Mr. Penfield for their presentations, stressing that they are always welcome to attend Board meetings.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

### ENVIROKIDSFEST '05

Board Member Nussbaum reported on the success of EnviroKidsFest. A survey of students, teachers and volunteers showed that participants felt it was a well run event. He thanked the City staff who had helped to make it such a success, and the Mayor for presenting the awards.

Next year the Scottsdale Unified School District is making attendance at EnviroKidsFest part of the fourth grade curriculum. This would increase attendance from 1,000 to 2,200. He had talked with many of the children and found that they were enthusiastic and had learned specific, useful information. He will circulate detailed information about EnviroKidsFest soon.

Chairman Basinger added that other City departments helped also; including Karen Warner from Water, David Bennett and Oscar Espinoza from Solid Waste, Claire (Miller) and Scott Hamilton from the Preserve, Shannon Wallace working on promotion, Eco-Gecko, and many other people from the city.

## OLD BUSINESS

### WATER QUALITY REPORT

Mr. Mansfield distributed copies of the Water Quality Report to Board members. To encourage residents to read and use the report, the department has taken care to present the information in a readable, inviting format. As in previous years, the City's water passed all the EPA water quality requirements for 2004. He mentioned a televised report of a taste test pitting tap water against bottled where most participants could not tell the difference.

In response to a question on carbon filtration from Chairman Basinger, Mr. Mansfield stated that at the Chaparral and CAP plants have additional sand filtration treatment. This is needed because we have a disinfectant byproduct issue to address. When you use surface water there are very small particles that when combined with chlorine forms trihalomethanes (THMs), which can be carcinogenic. The EPA has lowered the standard for THMs in the water. Carbon filters will reduce THMs and as an additional

benefit, it improves the taste of the water. Board Member Spector asked about the arsenic treatment plants. Mr. Mansfield replied that the 64th Street demonstration project is ready to start operations. The projects are scheduled to be completed by the time the well water is needed next March or April.

## NEW BUSINESS

### WATER SALINIZATION

Chairman Basinger noted that Councilman Ecton was unable to attend the meeting as scheduled. Mr. Mansfield gave a presentation on the Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS) that takes effluent from the City Water Campus and pumps it to 23 golf courses north of the CAP. The golf courses developed and paid for the system in 1992. In 1998 when the Water Campus began to produce effluent it (RWDS) began to use (distribute) effluent. Overtime, the composition of the water/effluent has changed. Initially, the area was supplied from well water, which is low in Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (about 300 parts per million (ppm)). The city has worked to replace well water with CAP water which has higher TDS (650-700 ppm).

What is even more interesting is that a lot of folks up north have water softeners. Water softeners use salt or sodium for their cleaning processes, and the sodium content went up from 95 ppm to 225 ppm. The (high) sodium content makes it difficult to grow grass. The salt impedes water being absorbed by the grass. The contract states that the golf courses are to take all the irrigation water produced by the Water Campus. The golf courses are concerned (and have paid for studies), so they and the Water Department are looking at alternatives. No decisions have been made as yet. A discussion on possible solutions ensued.

Board Member Spector asked how the Carefree/Cave Creek aquifer relates to the Scottsdale aquifer and whether it was possible that water might be pumped from the Scottsdale aquifer by other communities. Mr. Mansfield replied that the aquifers are connected but sit separately in times of drought. The Scottsdale Water Department is the only agency restoring the aquifer, because of concerns that well use might lower the level dangerously. The IWDS (Irrigation Water Distribution System) is required to recharge the aquifer; the plan is to put in 20,000 acre-feet over the next 15 years. This will replenish almost half of what was removed. In non-drought years, some water flows into the Paradise Valley aquifer.

A joint study was done with the City of Phoenix because of concerns about new well construction and the depth of the aquifer. Discussions are ongoing between the two cities. SRP is planning to drill (100-160) new wells because of the drought and this could affect the Scottsdale water supply. All of these activities are interrelated and can potentially affect the City's water supply. Mr. Mansfield stressed that these are long-term issues that need to be discussed now. However, there is no imminent water shortage.

Chairman Basinger inquired whether the golf courses on the IWDS were using their full allotment, and if they were not, was the surplus being recharged. Mr. Mansfield indicated that all but one of the courses are, and no, the city is only recharging the contracted amount. Ms. Tintle asked whether processing the effluent through RO would raise it to drinking quality level. Mr. Mansfield explained that essentially RO drinking water is distilled water. The law prohibits recycling effluent into drinking water, but we put it back in the ground (recharge). A change both in the law and public attitudes would be required to allow the city to supply the RO water as drinking water.

Chairman Basinger thanked Mr. Mansfield for his presentation.

## FUTURE MEETING LOCATION

Chairman Basinger raised the topic of location of future meetings. It has been suggested that the Board move its meetings, although it would be possible to continue meeting at the current location. Chairman Basinger suggested that Board members think about possible locations that Mr. Person could investigate for the Board. He explained that changing the location of meetings does not require a vote, but it does require a vote to change the time and/or day that the Board meets. After a short discussion, it was agreed to stay at the current location at least for the time being.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### GREEN BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Board Member Cohen reported that the Mayor had attended the Committee's May 10th meeting and had presented members with notes of thanks.

The Committee is working on the Design Day scheduled for June 11th, 2005, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Board Members are encouraged to attend this event. The remodeling guidelines publication is to be unveiled at the Design Day. A Green Building Expo is planned for September 23rd and 24th at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.

There will be openings on the Green Building Advisory Committee in June and applications are welcome. One application has been received to date and the terms of seven members will expire in June.

### WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board Member Munson stated that Mr. Mansfield's report and the ensuing discussion had covered the topic. The Water Advisory Committee did not meet, and they were attempting to establish a permanent meeting time.

### ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Skidmore noted that the meeting for May had been moved because of a schedule conflict to May 24<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm, in the third floor conference room.

## SUN FESTIVAL

Ms. Tintle reported that the Sun Festival '05 had been a great success and thanked everyone who had participated. Attendance was up slightly, at almost 5,000. People who attended the workshop for contractors had been very interested and many stayed after the session ended to discuss the concepts presented. A bicycle tour of solar homes had been successful in that many of the 87 participants had cycled the full 40-miles to visit the different homes, and it had generated media coverage.

## BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS

Board members noted with pleasure that environmental thinking is becoming increasingly popular in building design. There has been a significant change in public opinion and people in general are much more serious about protecting the environment and saving energy.

David Hutchinson introduced himself. He is with DMB and is Director of Development for DC Ranch.

Chairman Basinger welcomed him to attend any future meetings.

#### UPDATES AND REMINDERS

The next solar lecture series “Strategies: Passive First” is May 19<sup>th</sup>, tomorrow.

The next Green Building lecture is on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, “Feng Shui in the Context of Green”.

The next electronics recycling day is scheduled for October 15th.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled for November 5th.

The next Board meeting will be on June 15th.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Nussbaum exited the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Being duly moved by Board Member Munson and seconded by Board Member Spector, the regular meeting of the Environmental Quality Advisory Board was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Bahri